Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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TAGS: EAID, SWEL, UNDP, SO

SUBJECT: SOMALIA DROUGHT: SOMALIA PERMANENT REP HUSSEIN

CALL ON AMBASSADOR BENNETT

1. HUSSEIN CALLED ON AMBASSADOR BENNETT 15 JANUARY IN ORDER

A) BRIEF USUN ON SOMALIA DROUGHT SITUATION;

B) EXPRESS HEAR FELT APPRECIATION TO USG FOR ITS SPEEDY

RESPONSE TO GSDR REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE;

C) REQUEST THAT USG DELEGATION TO 19TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL

SESSION WHICH COMMENCES 15 JANUARY GIVE SYMPATHETIC CON-

SIDERATION TO SUPPORTING AND HOPEFULLY CO-SPONSORING THE BELOW

QUOTED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE DROUGHT IN SOMALIA WHICH ASKS

UNDP TO ALLOCATE \$2 MILLION FROM ITS PROGRAM RESERVE TO ASSIST

GSDR IN ITS DROUGHT ASSISTANCE EFFORTS. SHOULD BE NOTED

THAT PROPOSED \$2 MILLION ALLOCATION FROM PROGRAM RESERVE

WOULD BE IDENTICAL TO AMOUNT APPROVED AT 18TH GC SESSION

D) INFORM USUN HE HAD EARLIER THIS WEEK VISITED ALL

FOR DROUGHT-RELATED PROJECTS IN ETHIOPIA.

WESTERN EUROPEAN UN MISSIONS, THE UN MISSIONS OF THE ELEVEN

AFRICAN MEMBER COUNTRIES ON THE UNDP GC, PLUS THE DELEGATIONS

OF A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES. HE SAID HE HAD FOUND THEM

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QUITE POSITIVE RE THE DRAFT RES AND EXPECTED MANY OF THEM

TO BECOME CO-SPONSORS.

2. AMBASSADOR BENNETT:

A) THANKED HUSSEIN FOR HIS KIND WORDS OF APPRECIATION.

B) REMINDED HIM THAT FY 1975 USG EMERGENCY AID FUNDS WERE

UNFORTUNATELY ALREADY NEARLY COMPLETELY PROGRAMMED FOR USE

IN THE SAHEL COUNTRIES AND IN ETHIOPIA.

C) MENTIONED THE HIGH SEAS DIVERSION IN DECEMBER OF A SHIP

WITH 1410 TONS OF CD BISCUITS TO SOMALIA, AND SUGGESTED

THAT GOS MIGHT WANT TO BEAR IN MIND THAT, IF SHIP HAD BEEN

ALLOWED TO UNLOAD IN BERBERA VICE MOGADISCIO, APPROXIMATELY

\$60,000 IN TRANSPORTATION COSTS COULD HAVE BEEN SAVED

FOR OTHER DROUGHT RELATED ASSISTANCE.

D) SAID USG IN SPITE OF FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS WOULD CONTINUE

BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE.

3. 19TH UNDP GC AT ITS FIRST MEETING A.M. 15 JANUARY ADDED DROUGHT IN SOMALIA TO ITS AGENDA AS ITEM ELEVEN B. U.S. DEL TO GC REQUESTS INSTRUCTIONS ON BELOW QUOTED DRAFT RES ON THE DROUGHT IN SOMALIA INCLUDING QUESTION OF POSSIBLE USG CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION.

4. TEXT OF DRAFT RES FOLLOWS:

THE GOVERNING COUNCIL.

HAVING REVIEWED THE PROBLEMS ARISING FROM THE PREVALENCE OF THE DROUGHT IN SOMALIA,

REALIZING THAT THE DROUGHT IS SEVERELY AFFECTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLANS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA FOR THE SPEEDY SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY AND ITS PEOPLE,

RECALLING ITS PREVIOUS DECISIONS ON ASSISTANCE TO THE COUNTRIES OF THE SUDANO SAHELIAN ZONE AND ETHIOPIA IN SIMILAR PREDICAMENT

RECALLING FURTHER SOMALIA'S STATUS AS A LEAST DEVELOPED AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR WHICH BOTH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAVE RECOMMENDED SPECIAL MEASURES.

NOTING WITH APPRECIATION THE COMMENDABLE EFFORTS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF SOMALIA TO COMBAT THE EFFECTS OF THE DROUGHT,

NOTING FURTHER THE ACTIONS ALREADY TAKEN BY THE UNDP, UNDRO, UNICEF AND THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA IN ITS PRESENT HOUR OF NEED,

CONVINCED OF THE NEED FOR GREATER ACTION ON THE PART OF UNDP.

- 1. DECIDES TO ALLOCATE A SUM OF \$2 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE PROGRAMME RESERVE TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA IN ITS EFFORTS SPECIFICALLY TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE DROUGHT:
- 2. REQUESTS THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UN SYSTEM, IN FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AIMED AT ACHIEVING THE SHORT TO LONG-TERM RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION OF THE PEOPLE OF THE DROUGHT AFFECTED AREAS OF SOMALIA.

 BENNETT

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